

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Devlin et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/817,545 ) Group Art Unit: 1795  
Filed on: April 2, 2004 ) Examiner: Akram, Imran  
Title: Method for Increasing Throughput in an )  
Automatic Clinical Analyzer by )  
Duplicating Reagent Resources )  
Atty. Docket No.: DCS-9166 )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Examiner's Final Office Action dated June 25, 2008, in which claims 1-5 were rejected and is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination. Applicant respectfully requests entry of this communication prior to examination of the above identified case on its merits.